Mr. P. J. George: That is a sufficiently populous locality.

Mr. L. M. Pylee: May I know, Sir, whether it is the business centre of the locality?

Mr. P. J. George: It may not be possible to locate an Anchal Office on the very spot where there is a congregation of people. There must be some room available for people to go conveniently to the Anchal Office and to transact their business with the least difficulty.

Mr. L. M. Pylee: My question is whether it is located at the business centre.

Mr. P. J. George: It is reasonably near the business centre.

Mr. L. M. Pylee: What is the particular reason for Government to locate it at the present site?

Mr. P. J. George: It is after enquiries made by the Anchal Superintendent in the matter. It is reported that it is only 1½ furlongs from the so-called bazaar the hon'ble member thinks of.

BRANCH ANCHAL MASTERS—PARTICULARS REGARDING.

28. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any scale of pay has been fixed for Branch Anchal Masters, and whether in view of the low salary paid to them, the Government will be pleased to see that they are posted in their native places;

(2) whether the Government will be pleased to see that the Branch Anchal Masters are also given promotions when vacancies occur in larger Anchal Offices;

(3) how many Branch Anchal Masters in the State have furnished a security of Rs. 200 each?

Mr. P. J. George: (1) No pay is fixed for the posts of Branch Anchal Masters. Branch Anchal Masters are paid only an allowance (debitable to contingencies). There are three grades of this allowance, viz., Rs. 6, 7 and 8. But in 2 offices, viz., at Ramavarmapuram and Maharaja's Palace, these Anchal Masters are paid Rs. 15 and 10 respectively, in view of the heaviness of work or responsibility. It is the policy of the Department to post these Branch Anchal Masters in their native places as far as possible.

(2) Initial recruitment to the grade of Sub-Anchal Masters is made by the Staff Selection Board. No promise can

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be held out that all Branch Anchal Masters will be promoted automatically to the grade of Sub-Anchal Masters. There have however been instances where deserving Branch Anchal Masters also were recruited by the Board to the line of Sub-Anchal Masters.

(3) Eleven Branch Anchal Masters have furnished a security of Rs. 200 each.

Mr. P. Achyuta Menon: May I know, Sir, the general principles upon which these Anchal Offices are opened?

Mr. P. J. George: According to necessity. When people press for Anchal Offices and if the demand is justified Anchal Offices are opened just to satisfy the people for facilitating communication.

Mr. P. Achyuta Menon: Am I to understand that it is on account of the pressure by the people that they are opened?

Mr. P. J. George: Of course only when they require. Otherwise the Government won't inflict an Anchal Office in a locality.

Mr. P. Achyuta Menon: Am I to understand that whenever people press Anchal Offices will be opened?

Mr. P. J. George: Not always. After enquiries are made and after considering all these points if the Government consider that it is necessary it will be sanctioned.

Mr. P. Achyuta Menon: May I know on what general figures?

Mr. P. J. George: The number of letters going to that locality and coming from that locality and all these. Public Offices situated in the locality are also taken into consideration.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Are not these Anchal Masters given some commission on the sale of Anchal Stamps?

Mr. P. J. George: That was some time back. That has been stopped now.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Was their pay increased with the stoppage of payment of commission?

Mr. P. J. George: Government did not find it necessary to increase the pay on this account. That commission payment was started long ago when their pay was very meagre. Subsequently the pay has been revised and there is no justification to continue it any longer. In British and Travancore this commission was stopped.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: When was their pay revised and whether after the revision also were they not given commission?

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Mr. P. J. George: The pay was revised long ago but the commission was put a stop to only just now.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: What was the special reason for stopping the commission now?

Mr. P. J. George: When the Government found that the payment of commission is unnecessary it was stopped.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: May I know how many years have elapsed, since the pay was revised?

Mr. P. J. George: 2 or 3 years.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: What is the profit that the Government now made on account of stoppage of this commission?

Mr. P. J. George: Rs. 1,500.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: What is the average amount each Anchal Master used to get?

Mr. P. J. George: Bigger Anchal Offices—such as Ernakulam and Trichur—there they may get a good amount. Others get only very little. This Rs. 1,500 will be distributed among the Anchal Masters.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: Is it too big an amount as to call for the stopping of the commission?

Mr. P. J. George: All small amounts together make a big amount.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: It will be spread over various Anchal Masters. Does the Government think that this small commission paid to them should be denied to them in spite of the fact that they were enjoying the privilege for the last so many years?

Mr. P. J. George: All these points were considered.

Mr. Kochukunjan Kaimal: Was this question agitated in the Council whether the commission should be stopped. What was the policy adopted by the Government in stopping the commission?

Mr. P. J. George: It is only an act of retrenchment.

Dr. A. R. Menon: Are they full-time officers?

Mr. P. J. George: They attend to lucrative jobs. They have to spend some 2 or 3 hours a day for this work.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: May I know why this commission was not continued in respect of regular Anchal Masters?

Mr. P. J. George.: They are better paid.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: May I know the salary of the Branch Anchal Master of the lowest grade?

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Mr. P. J. George: It is already given in the answer.

ST. THOMAS' COLLEGE HOSTEL.

29. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether they have paid any grant, donation or loan to the management of the St. Thoma's College, Trichur, for the construction of Students' Hostels ;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what was the amount so paid ;

(*c*) under what conditions has the payment been made ;

(*d*) whether the construction of the hostels has been completed ;

(*e*) whether the hostels are open to students of all creeds and communities ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon: (*a*) Yes. Special grant.

(*b*) Rs. 10,000.

(*c*) Under the usual conditions on which special grants are paid, the buildings constructed out of the grant shall not be used for 21 years without the consent of the Director for any other purpose except the one for which the grant was given by Government.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Two hostels are constructed out of the special grant. One of them is for Hindu students. The Principal writes to say that no compulsion or restriction in any sense is exercised by the College authorities.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: May I know whether there is any student belonging to the backward community residing in the Hindu Hostel ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon: There is no restriction. I want notice.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: May I know whether after the construction of the Hostel any student of the backward community lived there ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon: I want notice. The Principal says that no compulsion or restriction in any sense is exercised by the College authorities.

Dr. A. R. Menon: Do you know whether any one has applied ?

HOSPITAL—MUNDUR—OPENING OF.

30. Mr. P. Govinda Menon: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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